

RECEIVED

FEB 06 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patent application of:

Gruber *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and
Purification of Nucleic Acid
Molecules**

Confirmation No.

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/B-C

#25
M.G.J.
2/8/02

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended one (1) month from January 3, 2002 to February 3, 2002 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$110.00 for a one (1) month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Check No. 34051. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 32,893

Date: Jan. 31, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

02/05/2002 TGEDAMU1 00000124 09076115

01 FC:115

110.00 0P